President's News Conference on Foreign and Domestic Issues

Following is a transcript of President Reagan's news conference last night Washington, as recorded by The New York Times:

OPENING STATEMENT

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Central sectors of his seturn from General Assembly this past September of the United Name on the full details of his discussions with Soviet Foreign Minister Groupvio over this past 1an. Tand 8, A you're warea, his meeting a section of the full details of his discussions with Soviet Foreign Minister Groupvio over this past 1an. Tand 8, A you're warea, his meeting a section of the section of t

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Weapons Negotiations

Q: Mr. President; if you are flex-ole, are you willing to trade off re-parch in Star Wars technology for eap cuts in the Soviet nuclear ar-enal of are you set in concrete, as-our advisers say, against any negoti-tions on Star Wars?

sead or are you set in concrete, as-your advisers say, against any negoti-ations og Star Warr? with has been claid Star Warr, and Helen, I wish-whoever coined that expression would take it back again, because it gives a false impression of what it is every tealting about. But that will be every tealting about. But that will be course. There's no preconditions with regard to the talks that we're going to have. But, this is research, a research program and it is within the provi-rent we've made clear is that we're going forward on the research. But we've

deploy.

1: ... Star Wars, even if you don't
e the term, it's quite popular, is on
a table for negotiations at some
int where the technology might be

A: . . . it's on the table only because

A: No. Oh no. No. No. Whoops.

Verification of Pact

Verification of Pact
Q: Mr. President, in the past you have characterized the Soviet Union as an evil empire. And you have said arms agreement and arms agreements they have made with the United States. Some of your advisers today doubt that the schoology exists to adequately verify any they will be some of your contraction is possible or do you think the Soviets will try to violate any agreement you might make?
At Well, we know that they have made with the source of the sou

Social Security Costs

Q. Mr. President, thank you. Senate epublicans and the leadership and be of your top advisers both have aid Social Security costs and living lowances are not necessarily unuchable in the effort to reduce the dependent of the promise security and the campaign? Or is it negotia-

A. Well, I never specifically men-ioned that I did say, however, that I rould resist anything that would re-uce the payments and the benefits— hich it had been intimated in the ampaign—you will remember that was responding to charges that it hat, I had no such plan, and I am re-isting this.

ad some secrets pure ante press we want to high one couples, and I am reI falm on such plan, and I am reI falm is such plan, and I am reI falm is what someone has taken is a
somment in one of our own meeting
bloom the present budger, based on
one news reports that up on the Hill
here was widespread feeling about
the secret budger, based on
which is the secret budger, based on
which is the secret budger, based on
the secret budger, based on
which is the secret budger, but
here will be be the secret
which is the secret
which is the secret
budger
and
the secret
budger
bud reaches my desk, but I think it would
— I would have to look at that situation and what I was faced with, with
regard to a possible Congressional
mandate.
On the other hand, I have to say this
about the Social Security and the

COLAs, and I think some of those who are calling for that on the Hill should recognize Social Security is running a surplus. Social Security is running a surplus. Social Security is not part of the deficit problem. It is totally financed by a payroll tax and that tax part of the security is payroll tax and that tax part of the security is part of the security of t grams that deficit. A. Dan?

Subway Gunman

O. Mr. services of the control of th

Campaign Promises

Campaign Promises
Q. Mr. President, have you painted
yourself into a corner with your campaign promises to raise taxes only
over your dead body, not to cut Social
sepending? The majority leader in
your party and the Senate is taking
about writing his own budget and its
spears to many people that you have
lem or the budget problem and are
going to leave; it to Congress.
A. No, in the first few days of Febrary we will be submitting out
mind if they want to do what they're
doing and have some plans of their
own or are suggesting some. Maybe
they've got some ideas we haven't
blook at theirs as well as ours, But it is
not have a budget that in overal
when they are the submitting out
they be submitted to the submitting the submitting out
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that if you keep all your promises there's no way that you can accom-plish that goal.

A. I just don't believe them. First of all, I think that the risk of a tax in-crease of slowing down the economy and putting us right back in a pattern that we've had since World War II, eight recessions in a row. And every



The New York Times/Geor President Reagan speaking at news conference last night.

recession led to the next one being worse and inflation higher and unemployment greater and so forth. We have made a great start on a received and the second of the second secon

Staff Changes

Staff Changes

Q. Mr. President, you said afteryour re-election you did not want to break up a winning team, yet your was a management of the state of the state of the winning team, yet your with the state of the winning team, yet your was a search of the state of the winning team, yet your was a search of the state of the winning team yet your second term with a second-test a little lonel without your long-time California aides?

A. Well, of course, I'll miss any one of those. We've been a fine team, and any that feel they have to leave—but from the beginning that I wanted people to take these positions in Government, but I was not setting any time limit as to how long they had to stay. Know that some people can only say-know that the canner. A say that the sa

Talks on Weapons

Talks on Weapons
Q. Yes, sir. I'm a little confused by
your original answer on, if you will
forgive me, "Star Wars," if we can
continue to use that term. You say
you're willing to negotiate about it
to go forward with research and only
really discuss limits after it proves
out whether the plan is feasible or not,
which is sometimes perhaps beyond
your term, in 1890 or so.
you're term, in 1890 or so.
You're the plan is feasible or not,
which is sometimes perhaps beyond
your term, in 1890 or so.
You're the plan is feasible or not,
which is sometimes perhaps beyond
You're the plan is feasible or not,
which is sometimes perhaps beyond
You're the plan is feasible or not,
which is sometimes perhaps
A. Chris, think that would be way
And the plan is the plan is the plan
A chris, think that would be way
how what kind of a weapon, if we're
able to come up with one, that this
know that is do is a well of a weapon,
and I can see it shooting missiles
down, and it looks so easy. We don't
know, That's why, when I sad "Star
Wars," and criticized it, I never men
know, I ha'm not a scientist.

I said all through history we've always been able to come up with a dewelve been able to come up with a defense way been able to come up with a defense we have the control of the control

Budget Tactics

Budget Tactics

Q. Mr. President, in response to Gary's question, you indicated that you might accept a freeze in Social Security Colas if it were forced on you seem to be seen to be seen to be seen to consider the course of the course products on that?

Also, I feel that a tax increase, as I would set us back in the very thing that we have accomplished in these first four years and intend to carry. And that is an economic sepansion. And that is an economic sepansion, and the seem of the seem

that it is impossions to make a proposition over three or free years as to
ward to will spend in those or
years.
What is some development on the
other side of the ocean absolutely
makes it necessary for us to do something that we can't even contemplaty
makes it necessary for us to do something that we can't even contemplaty
of the contemplaty
So all Defense has asked is, do not
pin them down to the out years, but to
accept that here, in good faith, they
have come up with as I say, a bigger
and them of the contemplaty
and the say in the contemplaty
have come up with a say, a bigger
and any I call your attention to
something else, and maybe you'd like
to raily around and help with a few
editorials. I think this policy some
that the President submit a budget
and then, based on that budget, submit projections for what the Government budgets are going to be for the
secondary in the world who can do
that and accurately tell you what
you're going nosed down the road.
And I'd like to point out that all of
the window, they didn't match
what we're doing now, and I think it
is enough. I know that most of the
states get along just fine with constiuniversal that the contemplation of the states
and a budget, then, when the next
year comes around.

And those projections,
C. By putting forth a budget that
doesn't even meet your own goals for
deficile reduction, aren't you really
begging Congress to do these things?

the money spent in 1985. And that's cut target and we intend to meet that target.

The spent is a couple of things we can't control. For example, the linterest on the debt. So we have to make allowances in other areas and find cuts that we can make there.

It would be very simple if the allowance in other areas and find cuts that we can make there.

It would be very simple if the could simply say, everybody spend the same amount of money next year; we can't. Some are going to spend more; some are going to spend more; some are going to spend less, and the same amount of money need less and the same amount of money spend less, and the same amount of money spend less, and the same amount of money spend less, and the same amount of money spend less and the same amount of money spend less and the same amount of money spend less and the same amount of the same a

Summit Meeting

Summit Meeting

Q. Mr. President, given the progress that you indicated had been made with the Soviets in these recent tails, do you feel that this might be the time now to have a summit with Soviet leader Chernenko?

Soviet leader Chernenko?

Soviet leader Chernenko?

Soviet leader Chernenko?

In this part to have a meeting, doesn't make any sease. Now, in this next month or so, we're all supposed to get the make any sease. Now, in this next month or so, we're all supposed to get make any sease and a carefully planned supposed to get the sease of the sease and a carefully planned micrould be helpful in that or in other matters and a carefully planned selves have said is pecessary. I'm perfectly willing and have been all this time to go to a summit meeting. I don't think it would make much sense going to talk about these often things, fet's have a meeting just to get acquainted. That builds up people's hopes. And some previous President down was, was very terrible. Ferry.

Q. Could you tell us if that topic was broached at all by Secreatry Shuitz to Favorache and the South Secretary. The summit? Was it brought up?

A. No. They had a very carefully planned agenda and, incidentally, there was no infighting among our there as the total delegation were in complete unanimity in their Rids. Some have suggested, about what we were going to talk about there. And there was very careful planning, and them, experts in their fields. Some have suggested, about what we were going to talk about there. And there was very careful planning, and the support of what we arrived at And they were and to talk about there. And there was very careful planning, and the support of the

Aid to Nicaragua

Aid to Nicaragua

Q. Mr. President, the time is drawing near when you will have to certify to Congress whether there's a need to continue supplying aid to the rebel forces inside Nicaragus. And 1'd like to the present when the data to the program when that data to come, or do you see any reason or any development that has occurred that would permit the United States to drop this overt aid programs. you know, I shouldn't be talking about anything that is supposed to be covert. But I will say this: that our plans — that we have no plans for abandoning the overall ideas of help such as were about the next five years, to help those nations that are trying to become democracles to be democracles to be democracles and to support the people of Nicaragual that the program proposed for over about the next five years, to help those nations that are trying to become democracles to be democracles and to support the people of Nicaragual that the program of the prog

Strategic Missiles

Strategic Missiles

Strategic Missiles

O. Thank you, Mr. President. By the end of the year, if the United States continues to deploy its strategic submarines to deploy its strategic submarines, as planned, it will exceed the Initiation for strategic missiles are used to the strategic submarines, as planned, it will exceed the Initiation of the States of the State

A. Well, I don't want to give away anything in advance the things that belong at the negotiating table. But, yes, one of the things that we've made clear to the Soviets is that we recog-

nize there may be differences with regard to the mix of weapons on bosides and were prepared to deal with that problem, and where perhaps to us, they have something that's an advantage to them, to discuss trade-offs in that area. It is true that when we first went into the strategic missile negotiations we believed that the

the land-based and they didn't wait for us when we lold them that with them on that problem. They went them on that problem. They went both sides rule that they re went But these are new negotiations. But these are new negotiations. Both sides rule that they re new ne-go. Mr. President, you started the week with a number of surprises and changes in your staff. I'm wondering you wouldn't like to get any other per-sonnel changes off your chest, such as the change in a replacement for Mr. Clark. Is it true, for example, that A. I ain't saling, I'll tell you when we've made a decision.

Geneva and Détente

Q. Thank you, Mr. President. Do you think that the Geneva meetings this week and the resumption of arms negotiations in the near future night lead to the new are of detent that Mr. Chemenko called for the St. Womenber Williams and the standard that the standard th

Post for Nixon

Post for NIXON

Q. Mr. President, are you about to name former President Richard Nixon to a post in your Administration, perhaps as a roving ambassador of some sort, or perhaps ensembly involved in the upcoming arms negotiated. A Well, he has never suggested, himself, that he had any inferest in such a thing, and, no, we have no such plans.

Q. Have you been consulting with him on the arms talks, or do you plan.

A. I feel, and we do keep all the for-

to?

A. I feel, and we do keep all the former Presidents briefed, and bring them up to date on things that we've done, and so forth, so I talk to him every once in a while, like today, to say happy birthday. Gerry?

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